

# Titus 2:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.

## Analysis

---

**Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded**—νέους (neous, young men) receive briefer instruction: παρακάλει σωφρονεῖν (parakalei sophronein, exhort to be self-controlled/sensible). One command where women received five (v. 4-5). Why? Verses 7-8 shift to Titus personally as the young man's model. Self-control (σωφροσύνη, sophrosynē) was a cardinal Greek virtue but needed Christian redefinition: not autonomous self-mastery but Spirit-empowered discipline.

Young men face unique temptations: sexual immorality, pride, rashness, aggression. Σωφρονεῖν encompasses sexual purity, humility, thoughtful decision-making, and controlled strength. Where young women needed instruction about relationships and domesticity, young men needed fundamental character formation —thinking rightly before acting rightly.

## Historical Context

---

Young men in Greco-Roman culture faced pressure toward sexual promiscuity (prostitution, pederasty), honor-shame competition, and philosophical pretension. Christian young men needed counter-cultural self-control rooted in gospel truth, not Stoic self-sufficiency. The gymnasium, symposium, and marketplace provided constant temptation requiring sobering grace.

## Related Passages

---

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

### Study Questions

---

1. Young men: in what areas do you lack self-control—sexual purity, anger management, financial discipline, time use?
2. How do you cultivate sober-mindedness in a culture promoting perpetual adolescence and instant gratification?
3. What older men are modeling self-control for you, and are you humble enough to receive their exhortation?

### Interlinear Text

---

τοὺς νεωτέρους ὡσαύτως παρακάλει σωφρονεῖν  
G3588      **Young men**      likewise      exhort      to be sober minded  
G3501      G5615      G3870      G4993

### Additional Cross-References

---

**Ecclesiastes 12:1** (Parallel theme): Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

**1 Peter 5:5** (Parallel theme): Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

**1 John 2:13** (Parallel theme): I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

**Ecclesiastes 11:9** (Parallel theme): Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

**Joel 2:28** (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

**1 Timothy 5:1** (Parallel theme): Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)